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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/680,662	10/07/2003	Ravi Kuchibhotla	CS23283RL	5428

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EXAMINER

EL HADY, NABIL M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2152

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/680,662

Applicant(s)

KUCHIBHOTLA ET AL.

Examiner

Nabil M. El-Hady

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/7/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. Claims 1-39 are pending in this application.
2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Cross-references to related applications on page 1 of the specification need to be updated. Appropriate correction is required.
3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.
4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
5. Claims 1-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Mildh et al. (US 2002/0193139), hereinafter "Mildh".
6. As to claim 1, Mildh discloses a method in a communication device, comprising transmitting a signaling connection establishment message on a radio connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message; receiving a

registration accept message on the radio connection ([0033]); and transmitting an uplink signaling message on the radio connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier [0008] and [0033]).

7. As to claims 9, 12, 15, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above. In addition, Mildh discloses receiving a system information broadcast message ([0016]); requesting a radio connection; and receiving a grant of a radio connection ([0033]).

8. As to claim 24, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, and 15 above. In addition, Mildh discloses a mobile communication device comprising a transceiver; a controller coupled to the transceiver, the controller configured to control the operations of the mobile communication device ([0035]); and a signaling message module coupled to the controller, the signaling message module configured to transmit a signaling connection establishment message on a radio connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message, receive a registration accept message on the radio connection ([0033]), and transmit an uplink signaling message on the radio connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier ([0008] and [0033]).

9. As to claim 27, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, and 15 above. In addition, Mildh discloses selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks to process the registration message; and sending a registration accept message ([0009]).

10. As to claim 31, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, 15 above.

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11. As to claim 33, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, 15 above.

12. As to claims 2, 10, 16, and 34, Mildh discloses the uplink signaling message comprises a non-access stratum signaling message ([0015]).

13. As to claims 3, 4, 17, 18, 25, 30, 32, 35, and 37, Mildh discloses the uplink signaling message includes a domain identity, the domain identity comprises at least one of a packet switched domain indicator and a circuit switched domain indicator ([0004] and [0008]; and MSC and SGSN in Fig. 1).

14. As to claims 5, 11, 19, 26, and 37, Mildh discloses the signaling connection establishment message comprises an initial core network signaling message ([0036]).

15. As to claims 6, 7, 20, 21, 38 and 39, Mildh discloses the registration request message includes a desired core network operator identifier ([0035]), or includes an assigned core network operator identifier ([0032] – [0033]).

16. As to claims 8, and 22, Mildh discloses the core network operator identifier comprises a public land mobile network identity including a mobile country code and a mobile network code ([0008]).

17. As to claim 14, Mildh does not explicitly disclose sending a registration denial message, the registration denial message including a forbidden core network operator identifier. However, sending a registration denial message for different reasons is well known in mobility processing

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to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention, see, for example, Kim, US 6,463,259, Fig. 6).

18. As to claim 23, Mildh discloses forwarding the non-access stratum signaling message to a first core network operator when the non-access stratum signaling message is a circuit switched message; and forwarding the forwarding the non-access stratum signaling message to a second core network operator when the non-access stratum signaling message is a packet switched message ([0004] , [0008], [0009]).

19. As to claims 28 and 29, Mildh discloses selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks in a random manner or in a round robin manner ([0038] and [0039]).

20. Claims 1-39 are further rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Kauranen et al. (US 2004/0162077), hereinafter "Kauranen".

21. As to claim 1, Kauranen discloses a method in a communication device, comprising transmitting a signaling connection establishment message on a radio connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message; receiving a registration accept message on the radio connection ; and transmitting an uplink signaling message on the radio connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier ([0017]).

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22. As to claims 9, 12, 15, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above.

In addition, Kauranen discloses receiving a system information broadcast message requesting a radio connection; and receiving a grant of a radio connection (inherent in radio access communication network, and [0042]).

23. As to claim 24, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, and 15

above. In addition, Kauranen discloses a mobile communication device comprising a transceiver; a controller coupled to the transceiver, the controller configured to control the operations of the mobile communication device ([0036]); and a signaling message module coupled to the controller, the signaling message module configured to transmit a signaling connection establishment message on a radio connection, the signaling connection establishment message including a registration request message, receive a registration accept message on the radio connection ([0036]), and transmit an uplink signaling message on the radio connection, the uplink signaling message including a core network operator identifier ([0017]).

24. As to claim 27, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, and 15

above. In addition, Kauranen discloses selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks to process the registration message; and sending a registration accept message ([0019]).

25. As to claim 31, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, 15 above.

26. As to claim 33, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 12, 15 above.

27. As to claims 2, 10, 16, and 34, Kauranen discloses the uplink signaling message comprises a non-access stratum signaling message ([0013], [0042]).

28. As to claims 3, 4, 17, 18, 25, 30, 32, 35, and 37, Kauranen discloses the uplink signaling message includes a domain identity, the domain identity comprises at least one of a packet switched domain indicator and a circuit switched domain indicator ([0037])

29. As to claims 5, 11, 19, 26, and 37, Kauranen discloses the signaling connection establishment message comprises an initial core network signaling message ([0012]).

30. As to claims 6, 7, 20, 21, 38 and 39, kauranen discloses the registration request message includes a desired core network operator identifier, or includes an assigned core network operator identifier ([0018]).

31. As to claims 8, and 22, kauranen does not explicitly disclose the core network operator identifier comprises a public land mobile network identity including a mobile country code and a mobile network code. However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that identifying a core network would include identifying a mobile country code and a mobile network code.

32. As to claim 14, Kauranen discloses sending a registration denial message, the registration denial message including a forbidden core network operator identifier ([0012], [0016]).

33. As to claim 23, kauranen discloses forwarding the non-access stratum signaling message to a first core network operator when the non-access stratum signaling message is a circuit switched message; and forwarding the forwarding the non-access stratum signaling message to a second core network operator when the non-access stratum signaling message is a packet switched message ([0037]).

34. As to claims 28 and 29, Kauranen discloses selecting a core network from a plurality of core networks in a random manner or in a round robin manner ([0017], [0053])

35. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kim (US 6,463,259); Anckar et al. (US 2004/0105429) ; Rajkotia et al. (US 2005/0070281); and Ratzel (US 6,873,615).

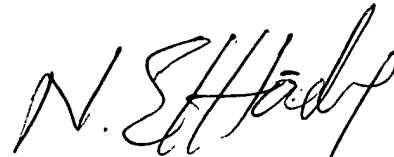
36. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nabil M. El-Hady whose telephone number is (571) 272-3963. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 16, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. El-Hady". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Nabil El-Hady, Ph.D., M.B.A.
Primary Patent Examiner
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